(b) and (c) Syria shares India's view that only scrupulous implementation of the Geneva Accord can restore peace and normalcy in Afghanistan. Syria and India have agreed to remain in touch with a view to securing this objective.

Proposal for Upper Bhadra Project

1197. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Karnataka Government for 'Upper Bhadra Project'; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Erosion in Ganga at Farakka

1198. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any letter from Members of Parliament in the month of May, 1988 regarding erosion of the river Ganga at Farakka; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The letter sought to indicate that river bank erosion on the right bank downstream of Farakka Barrage is taking place and made a request to implement the recommendations of the anti-erosion Committee.

Commission paid by Bofors in the Howitzer Guns

1199. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department has come across the reports in 'Hindu' Published during the last three months with regard to Bofors Howitzer guns and commission paid to 3 foreign based companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that MOINEAO S. A. is linked with Hindujas; whether MOINEAO S. A. received Rs. 10 crores for the Howitzer contract as Commission or winding up cost;

(c) whether it is confirmed that Bofors paid 5.75 per cent commission to Svenska Ltd. and whether such a high commission amounts to bribe;

(d) whether Shri Win Chadda is connected with any of the three companies that were paid commissions and if so what are the details of Win Chadda's connection whether any move has been made to investigate Bofors-Hinduja connection; and

(e) whether Government officers sent abroad to investigate into Bofors scandal has brought any evidence or material pertaining to the scandal; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C PANT): (a) to (e) The Government has seen the material published in the 'Hindu' during April, 1988 to June, 1988, purporting to relate to agreements concluded by M/s Bofors with certain foreign and Indian firms and the alleged payments made by them to these firms. Necessary in-

vestigations into the published material have been ordered by the Government. The course of further action will be based on the results of these investigations.

Use of Army Facilities by Shri Arun Govil

1200. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated 13th June, 1988 to the effect that facilities for flying in an IAF aircraft and landing at an army airfield were accorded to Shri Arun Govil, a T.V. artist, while he was on an election campaign; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what is the exact procedure for acquiring such army facilities on such occasions and who made the payment, and how much in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Government have seen the press report in question. Army and Airforce Headquarters have confirmed in this context that no such facilities were provided.

(b) Since no facilities were provided, the question of payment does not arise. The prescribed procedure is contained in the Statement attached.

Statement

The procedure for acquiring facilities of landing at Army Airfield is as below:—

1. Civilian operators desirous of using Army airfield are to obtain prior clearance from Army Headquarters, Additional Directorate General, Army Aviation.

2. Only after this clearance has been obtained an AOR Number is issued to the civilian agency by Air Headquarters.

3. Normal landing and parking charges as per existing regulations are charged. Amounts received on this account are deposited on Military Receivable Order to Major Head 0076, Minor Head 0800, Sub Head c (b) code No. 575/30.

4. The civil agency is required to request for such clearances a minimum of 20 days prior to the proposed flight.

5. Where required, necessary security clearance is also obtained through Directorate of Military Intelligence.

Testing of Missile by Pakistan

1201. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report that Pakistan has conducted a missile test having arrange covering Bombay and Delhi as targets; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government closely monitor all developments having a bearing